



Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure Newsletter

Hurstbourne Office Park, 310 Whittington Parkway, Suite 1B, Louisville, Kentucky 40222
Website: kbml.ky.gov

Spring 2004

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Governor Appoints Board Members to Drug Control Policy Assessment Summit

Recently Governor Fletcher appointed two Board members, Danny M. Clark, M.D., and Rice C. Leach, M.D., to serve on the Governor's Drug Control Policy Assessment Summit. This initiative, which is being steered by Lieutenant Governor Steve Pence, calls for state, local and federal officials who specialize in drug prevention-education, treatment and enforcement to conduct a 20-week, comprehensive evaluation of substance abuse in Kentucky. Once the evaluation phase is complete, the Summit will provide recommendations on how to best organize and efficiently apply all resources toward outcome-based solutions to Kentucky's substance abuse problem.

Why Do Patients File Grievances with the Board?

It is Board policy to investigate each and every grievance that we receive from the public. While the Board understands that having a grievance filed against you can be disconcerting, inconvenient, and time consuming, please understand the Board has the statutory responsibility to investigate all grievances filed against physicians practicing in the state.

As you can imagine, the Board receives a wide variety of grievances. Some involve complicated, serious cases that may result in formal Board action, but the majority are matters that you, the physician can avoid or mitigate. Often these types of grievances have one thing in common: poor communication between the patient and the physician.

Patients often complain when their physician seems to spend too little time listening to them or examining them, or seems to jump to a decision about their condition without fully considering what the patient has to say, or when one treating physician fails to communicate with another treating physician. Patients also file grievances due to the fact that a physician's office staff is impolite, cancelled appointments with a short notice on repeated occasions, and when they cannot obtain their medical records in a timely manner.

The Board understands the world of medicine is extremely fast-paced and increasingly pressured by deadlines, insurance regulations, paperwork, etc. While it may be difficult to find the additional time to give your patients a little more individual attention, acknowledgement, or respect, your efforts most likely will be rewarded.

2004 Annual Renewal of Physician Licenses

Annual renewal of physician licenses for the current year has just been completed. As of April 05, 2004, 8,581 physicians with an in state practice address renewed their license and 3,578 with an out of state practice address registered for a total of 12,259. While these totals reflect a slight increase over last year, the number of critical care specialists in the state has declined in the past five years.

Final Disciplinary Actions

Berry A. Campbell, M.D., #28208, Bell Co.

Amended Letter of Agreement entered into 02/03/04.

William M. Collins, M.D., #23375, Letcher Co.

Agreed Order of Suspension entered into 02/02/04.

Robert G. Drake, Jr., M.D., #22048, Pulaski Co.

Agreed Order of Indefinite Restriction entered into 01/15/04.

Gary L. Higgason, M.D., #22759, Fayette Co.

Order Denying Request issued 02/09/04. Request to terminate Agreed Order of Indefinite Restriction denied.

Syed Ikramuddin, M.D., #19259, Floyd Co.

Amended Interim Agreed Order entered into 02/17/04.

Seth S. Johnston, M.D., #31767, Jefferson Co.

Second Amended Agreed Order of Probation entered into 02/23/04.

David Krasnopolsky, M.D., #25390, Perry Co.

Agreed Order of Indefinite Restriction entered into 01/15/04.

F. Christopher Massa, M.D., #34943, Fayette Co.

Agreed Order of Indefinite Restriction entered into 03/12/04.

Thomas P. Rankin, M.D., #19902, Jefferson Co.

Third Amended Agreed Order of Indefinite Restriction entered into 03/25/04.

Ali H. Sawaf, M.D., #34435, Harlan Co.

Order of Revocation issued 01/06/04. Effective 02/07/04.

Ruth A. Serneels, M.D., #26759, Bell Co.

Second Amended Agreed Order Reinstating License; Subject to Conditions, entered into 02/06/04.

C. Tinsley Stewart, M.D., #22497, Jefferson Co.

Order Terminating Restrictions issued 03/03/04.

Amarjit Viens-Bains, M.D., #19464, Indianapolis, IN

Agreed Order of Surrender entered into 01/15/04.

Michael D. Williams, D.O., #02427, Wayne Co.

Order of Revocation issued 02/27/04. Effective 04/01/04.

Restrictions have also been placed on the following physicians' licenses pending resolution of charges brought against the physician.

Lowell G. Arnett, Jr., M.D., #35139, Fayette Co.

Emergency Order of Suspension issued 03/05/04. Suspension effective 03/08/04.

John L. Doyle, III, M.D., #31288 Montgomery Co.

Complaint and Emergency Order of Suspension issued 03/10/04. Suspension effective 03/11/04. On 04/02/04, hearing officer issued Final Order Modifying Emergency Order of Suspension. Physician *may practice* under terms and conditions therein.

Brian T. O'Donoghue, M.D. #32124 Breckenridge Co.

Complaint and Emergency Order of Restriction issued 03/11/04. Restriction effective 03/12/04.

Bernard C. Moses, M.D., #19129 Whitley/Knox Co.

Complaint and Emergency Order of Suspension issued 01/20/04. Physician prohibited from practicing medicine pending resolution of Complaint, with suspension effective 01/22/04. On 03/22/04, Jefferson Circuit Court issued an Order granting Dr. Moses' Motion for Temporary Injunction. Pursuant to the Court's Order, Dr. Moses *may resume* practice, with terms and conditions.

Kermit D. Gibson, M.D., #02080, Pike Co.

Complaint and Emergency Order of Suspension issued 01/15/04. Physician prohibited from practicing medicine pending resolution of Complaint. Suspension effective 01/20/04. Order & Temporary issued 04/05/04. Dr. Gibson *may practice*, with terms and conditions.

David W. Thurman, M.D., #14526, Jefferson Co.

Complaint and Emergency Order of Suspension issued 10/16/03, with suspension effective from 10/20/03. Final Order Modifying Emergency Order of Suspension to an Order of Restriction issued on 01/12/04 by hearing officer. Suspension modified to restriction that Dr. Thurman *may practice* with terms and conditions. Opinion & Order issued by Jefferson Circuit Court on 02/17/04 and Dr. Thurman's license *is suspended*, effective 02/17/04.

W. Rex Duff, M.D., #13338, Greenup Co.

Complaint and Emergency Order of Suspension issued 05-07-03. On 11-12-03, Jefferson Circuit Court issued an Order granting Dr. Duff's motion for a temporary injunction which returned his license to active status as of that date. The Court of Appeals has now issued an Order Granting Relief. Therefore, Dr. Duff's license *is suspended* as of 02-26-04.

The following physicians' Kentucky medical licenses have been suspended based on their failure to complete continuing medical education as required by 201 KAR 9:310. Unless otherwise indicated, these licensees will remain suspended until verifiable proof of satisfactory completion of the CME requirement has been submitted.

Physician	Effective Suspension Date	Reinstated
Arehart, David, M.D., #37145	02/02/04	02/04/04
Baker, William H., M.D., #13399	01/15/04	
Bowler, William B., M.D., #33693	01/20/04	
Conner, Marilyn L., M.D., #28209	01/14/04	
Cowherd, Colby N., M.D., #10748	01/14/04	
DePrato, Debra Katherine, #25205	01/15/04	
Hill, Tami G., M.D., #29709	02/04/04	
Logsdon, Joseph E., Jr., #16271	01/13/04	
Megler, Mihael A., M.D., #26647	01/15/04	
P'Pool, Billy W., M.D., #18036	01/15/04	
Scott-Calor, Mary Beth, #02604	01/12/04	
Storey, John H., M.D., #28067	01/15/04	
Thistlethwaite, William F., #28760	01/16/04	
Thompson, Leroy E., M.D., #14956	01/13/04	02/04/04
Urrego, Frank, M.D., #21768	01/15/04	
Ward, Kimber A., Jr., M.D. #15201	01/16/04	02/19/04
Westerband, Alex, M.D., #34727	01/15/04	

Disciplinary Action and Rehabilitation

The purpose of disciplinary action against a physician's license is to protect the public and deter others from similar misconduct and promote rehabilitation. Through experience the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure has concluded that disciplinary actions should be tailored to fit the violation, with the principal concern being how best to protect the public. If an otherwise competent practitioner who is being treated for alcoholism is able to maintain sobriety under a rigid Board order requiring regular testing, reporting and monitoring, it makes little sense for the Board to demand a period of license suspension. If a physician whose patient's records are substandard or incomplete is able to correct deficient practice by completing a course in recordkeeping, public protection may be best served by demanding that the doctor complete the course and then monitoring performance. In some cases, public protection is best served by requiring supervision, monitoring, and additional education or by limiting practice. However, there are some instances where the nature of a violation warrants a suspension or revocation in order to deter others and safeguard the public.

KBML Web Site

The KBML web traffic continues to surge as more consumers and physicians take advantage of the efficient around the clock service available at kbml.ky.gov. The KBML web site is a comprehensive source of information and as our web traffic continues to grow we will continue to work to improve the experience of our online visitors.

The KBML site contains information about the Board, policy statements and guidelines, a direct link to the KY Medical Practice Act Statutes & Regulations, recent newsletters, monthly disciplinary actions, application forms and other valuable information for the public as well as for physicians, physician assistants and athletic trainers. The site also contains a physician profile of physicians holding an active Kentucky medical license and plans to add a profile for physician assistants and athletic trainers in the very near future.

If you have Internet access please visit the KBML web site and let us know your opinion. Any suggestions or additional items that you would like available on the site will be welcome.

A Fond Farewell

A special thanks is extended to Emery A. Wilson, M.D., for his support and participation while serving on the Board. Dr. Wilson has served on the Board as Dean of the University of Kentucky College of Medicine for the past seventeen years. His dedication and leadership has benefited physicians as well as the citizens of Kentucky. The Board extends its best wishes to Dr. Wilson in his future endeavors.

Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure

Change of Address Notice

Please Note: The information that you provide on this Change of Address Notice will be used to update your profile on the Board's web site at kbml.ky.gov.

(Please Print or Type Information)

Date: _____

KY License Number: _____

Name: _____
(last) (first) (m.i.)

Mailing Address: _____
(street)

(city) (state) (zip)

KY Practice County: _____ **Office Telephone:** _____

Practice Address: _____
(street)

(city) (state) (zip)

E-Mail Address: _____

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Louisville, KY 40222

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